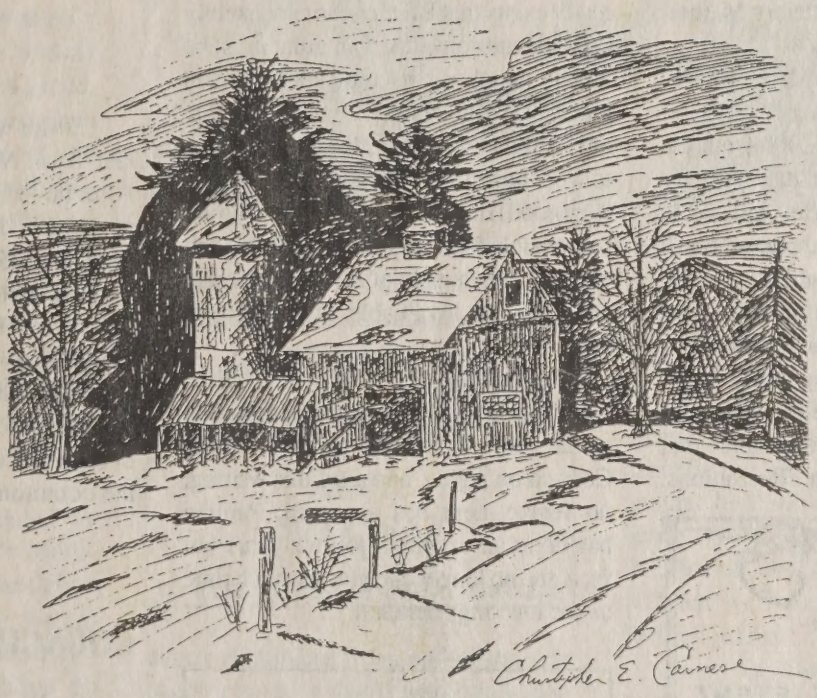
MONTEREY NEWS

December 1998
VOLUME XXVIII · Number 12

THE TOWN



During the November third elections 344 citizens, or 68% of eligible Monterey voters, turned out at the polls to show their interest in government. For Governor, Harshbarger/Tollman received 204 votes while the Cellucci/Swift ticket received 131. All six of the questions proposed passed, with Question two, about campaign finance reform, receiving an overwhelming 86% of the votes cast in favor. On Question 5, about dismantling county government, 149 voted to abolish the county and 150 voted to retain it. But an impressive vote on Question 6 to reform county government received 221 in favor and 73 against. The clear message is that there should be some form of county government, but not the present one. The voting on these two questions was similar county wide.

A Special Town Meeting will be held December 7 at the Firehouse at 7 p.m. The major question to be resolved is how the five towns of Southern Berkshire Regional School district (SBRSD) will share tax assessments. Last September all five towns agreed to a per-pupil method of assessment, provided that each town's portion equal or exceed its minimum local contribution as calculated by the Department of Education This agreement, with its condition of forgiving overpayments by other towns, was to have been in place for three years while the towns sought a permanent resolution. Although initially favored by all the towns, Sheffield has withdrawn it's support of this solution after finding that its tax assessment would rise by approximately $300,000, rather than its ceiling figure of about $200,000. Sheffield's enrollment has increased, and according to Monterey Select Board member Muriel Lazzarini, "They want us [the other four towns] to adopt their students." Representatives of the towns have met for hours with Superintendent William Cooper and Business Administrator Kevin Fox in efforts to reach a compromise. The Article, as presented in the Warrant will probably be amended to agree to a rolling average of several years' attendance figures. An aggregate of several years' numbers of pupils-in-attendance would avoid a sudden tax assessment increase in a single year.

November 20, the last meeting of representatives of the towns as of this report, the consensus of four towns was to allow Sheffield a no more than $200,000 assessment increase for the coming year while other towns would continue to absorb the difference; however, Sheffield declined to accept this offer because they did not know what the numbers would be for the future. The December 7 Special Town Meeting will bring news up-to-date.

Again Sheffield finds financial woe: Legal fees as plaintiff in the one man/one vote wrangle will amount to about $16,000 because Sheffield lost its case against the other member towns of the school district as ruled by Judge Michael Ponser. Sheffield had sought to increase its influence on the school committee by weighing the voting more heavily in its favor. The issue was finally resolved by having school committee members appointed rather than elected. The decision did not affect the number of representatives from each town, nor did it affect the weighting of their votes, both of which Sheffield had sought for more control of district decisions. Throughout all of the wrangling the Monterey Select Board declined to engage, willing to accept representation decisions and not financial obligations.

Also on the December 7 Warrant

will be a statement to amend the Zoning Bylaw by adding the definition of the word "dock": "A flat structure exclusively for water-dependent uses no wider than four and one half feet and no longer than twenty five feet, except by special permit."

The Town will also vote to transfer from free cash $14,000 to the Highway Maintenance Account to provide for employees sick leave, something that was overlooked at Annual Town Meeting last May. Likewise, the Town will vote to transfer $4,000 to the Cemetery Maintenance Account.

Glad tidings for the Town. Monterey naturalist Bonner McAllester has received a grant of $3,000 from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust for the creation of a nature trail. Similar to Diane's Trail at Gould Farm, this one will go around Brewer Pond which is on the dam side of Lake Garfield directly west of Tyringham Road. Bonner participated in marking and identifying points of interest on Diane's Trail, along with contributing to the informative brochure that includes her well-known illustrations. This hike, by the way, is a real treat, not only lovely, but providing planking over wet areas, a bridge over the Konkapot River, and no steep inclines. Before shifting her interest to Brewer Pond, Bonner had planned a similar effort at the Mount Hunger Land Trust property; however, Virgil Stucker of the Berkshire Taconic Foundation told her just before the grant application deadline that the grant is applicable only to properties with nearby water. Hence, the selection of Brewer Pond where an old overgrown trail already exists that Bonner has consistently used on nature walks. The grant must be locally matched but volunteer labor and materials will count. Bonner says that next summer will be the time to volunteer to work and make donations. Monterey's very good friends at Gould Farm, who are responsible for the work on Diane's Trail under the leadership of Bob Rausch, will no doubt be invaluable to the project Bonner says.

Sad tidings for the town: Pauline Nault has given notice of her resignation at the end of the year as chair of the Council on Aging, and as of this writing, no replacement has appeared. Pauline has done an excellent job for years but feels she no longer can give as much time as the meetings demand.

Of miscellaneous interest, Brian Puntin met with the Board to ask permission to erect a horse-crossing sign on Art School Road considering how many horses are housed on this road at the Roberts farm and the Bidwell House.

Kathy Page Wasiuk also met with the Board November 23 to express her concern upon reading in the Monterey News that there is a move afoot to pave Hupi Road. She was assured that nothing short of a major petition of Hupi residents could cause such an action.

— Jane Black

Editor's note: this is Jane Black's last *Town News* column for the paper. After covering the Select Board, Board of Health, and Town meetings since May of 1995 Jane has decided that a life without deadlines holds some appeal. We have all benefitted from her interest in Monterey as well as her insights into town government. The *Monterey News* is grateful for her sizeable contribution of time and effort to both the paper and the community.

— Maggie Leonard

COUNCIL ON AGING

On Wednesday, December 2 at 10 a.m., Martha Seymour of Elder Services of Berkshire County will give a short talk on the purpose of the "Shine" program which serves the health information needs of elders. She will also answer questions about the *Medicare And You* bulletin recently sent by the Federal Medicare Agency to all beneficiaries.

A Christmas luncheon, the last of the year, will be held on Friday, December 11 at noon.

The monthly blood pressure clinic will be held on Tuesday, December 15 from 9-10:30 a.m.

All events are held in the basement of the Town Hall.

The Monterey Council On Aging sends best wishes to all for the holiday season.

— Pauline Nault

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NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL/ MONTEREY SCHOOL NEWS

Fourth grader, Rachael Wilconson was the overall winner in the fire safety, home escape plan contest at New Marlborough Central School (NMC). Her entry goes on to national judging. Congratulations, Rachael and good luck.

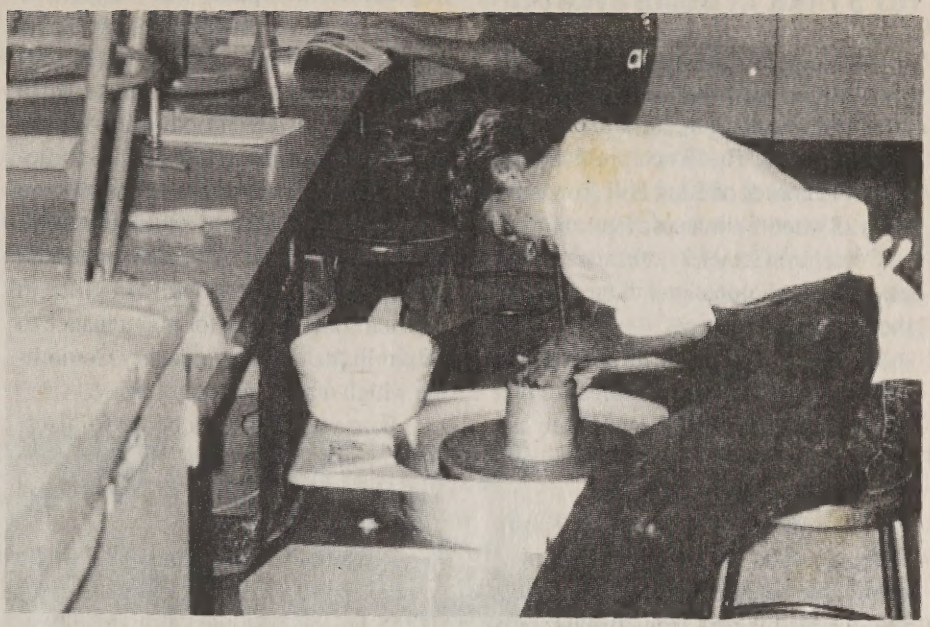
This year's issue of NMC *School Zone*, the student newspaper, has been published. The paper is produced on a Macintosh computer by Dan Weston's second/third/fourth grade class, and articles are contributed from each grade. It's interesting to read about the doings at NMC in the unique voices of the children themselves. Artwork and photographs adorn the pages as well.

Mrs. Pottle's third/fourth grade class visited the New England Aquarium, Science Museum and Omni Theater in Boston recently. The PTA's fund-raising efforts paid for admission to the aquarium. By all accounts it was a great trip. The rock-hopper penguins were an especially big hit.

Monterey School was visited by the students of Mr. MacNeill's Multimedia Class from Mount Everett High School. The class assignment was to interview and film one of the district's outlying schools for presentation on The Morning Show, which is broadcast to classes at Under Mountain Elementary School and Mount Everett High School every morning. Mrs. Andersen's kindergarten class took the media attention in stride. Graduates of the Monterey School now at Under Mountain Elementary and Mount Everett should have fun remembering when.

The Monterey School was also the venue for a School Committee meeting on November 19. The aforementioned video was shown to School Committee members and kindergarten teacher Susan Andersen was present to answer questions from the committee. Andersen summed up her philosophy of teaching as making certain that students are "Loved, looked after, and very well taught." Superintendent Dr. William Cooper praised Andersen for her technique of teaching "language acquisition through poetry," which culminates in an end-of-the-year poetry recitation that is inspiring to parents and students alike. And upon hearing the favorable school choice numbers, committee member Susan Haupt said, "Whatever you're doing, keep doing it!"

— Deborah Mielke



The benefits of the Eagle Fund are clear. A Mount Everett student throws a pot on the pottery wheel that was purchased by the Eagle Fund. Story on page 4.

ALTERATIONS
CUSTOM TAILORING

ARRIE
528-1943

Weekends best — Leave message

COMMUNITY SUPPER

The Community Supper that was scheduled for Thursday, October 29 was cancelled at the last minute. It turned out that the church basement's wall were being repaired and that rain could leak in. Thus the decision to cancel. It didn't rain, and we could have held the supper. Wrong guess!

Now that the church is being thoroughly repaired, it seems best to suspend the Community Suppers until the repairs are completed.

Watch for the next announcement here in the *Monterey News*.

— David Bach

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VET'S PARK IN HOME STRETCH

Monterey's Veterans Memorial Park is just about completed and it's design and setting should be a source of pride for the community. The Town provided the site at the corner of Blue Hill Road and Route 23 when it purchased land abutting the Corashire Cemetery, but everything else came from donations in the form of labor as well as money.

There are still a few things that are necessary to complete the project so that the Veteran's Memorial Committee can close it's books (we've been working on this for about eight years).

The design, created by Frank D'Amato, calls for two or three non-destructible benches and evergreens that will separate the park from its neighbors and define the space. The flagpole is already in place, but the flag cannot be flown continuously unless light is provided. The committee has plans for a small solar-powered floodlight to illuminate the flag so that it can be flown after sunset. The labor for the solar installation will be donated, but we need an estimated $3000 for hardware, materials, and a small concrete slab. We would also like to provide some money for maintenance to be put in trust of the Cemetery Committee which maintains the property.

If, as you close your books for fiscal 1998, you could make a donation to the Veteran's Memorial we will be able to complete our work.

Please send donations to Patricia Mielke, Town Treasurer, Monterey, MA 01245.

EAGLE FUND BEGINS DRIVE

Did you ever have an amazing but unreachable dream when you were in school? Was it lack of funding that prevented you from seeing your dream come true?

In late 1997, a group of community members established the Eagle Fund, a permanent endowment with the earnings to be invested in educational projects proposed by students and teachers. The purpose of the Eagle Fund is to stimulate and support the creative excellence of our students and teachers.

We have a responsibility to promote quality education for all the children in our community. Although public tax dollars help to sustain education, they are inadequate to fulfill the dreams of many and the hopes we have for our school. The need to develop the Eagle Fund from private contributions is clear. We have achieved remarkable success in a short time, but in order for the endowment to generate enough income to make a real difference, our support and that of the local community is crucial.

Because of the diversity of our community, it is essential that all students have the opportunity to explore beyond their wildest dreams. To this end the Eagle Fund is initiating a fund drive, and is calling upon all members of the community to contribute to the goal of excellence in public education. Gifts of any amount are welcome; this is a gift that will grow as the Eagle Fund soars. Contributions may be sent to the Eagle Fund c/o Berkshire Taconic Foundation, 271 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230.

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For more information and directions to the school, please call Nellie at
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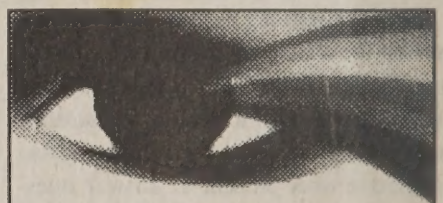

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HAVE NEEDLE, WILL (TIME) TRAVEL

There's a lot of history told with needle and thread. Some fine examples of that history are gathered in the Bidwell House collection. A few weeks ago, I looked through some of the Bidwell House quilts and crewel work with Anita Caroll-Weldon. Elements from this work by earlier craftswomen are now incorporated into the corner designs of the quilt the Monterey Piecemakers are working on this winter.

My involvement with the other Piecemakers not only nourishes my social life and improves my handcrafts skills. Gathering with my neighbors to sew also fuels my increasing fascination with needle crafts, piques my historical curiosity and dredges up memories of my great aunt Kit.

That's not quite true. Actually, it dredged up memories of great-aunt Kit's gold velvet and black satin ball gown.

I found it in a trunk in my grandfather's attic forty years ago. The first time I touched her dress, held it up to me in front of a full-length mirror and slipped my arms into the dramatic leg-o'-mutton sleeves, my sense of history ignited. This woman, who died before I was born, and the time she lived both seemed to come alive in the dress she wore and loved.

Antique clothing, whole-cloth and applique quilts, and crewel embroidery are my current fiber passions. But I'm curious about any needlework connected to the history of Monterey.

I'd like to start a local history column for the News, built around the fiber arts. I'll need your help, though.

Do you have any old fabric, clothing, quilts, or embroidery hidden away? Also of interest are antique fiber-arts tools: thimbles, pincushions, sewing kits, needle cases, and the like. Even if the items originally came from that large part of the world called "someplace else," their presence here with you now makes them part of recent local history. And if you work with fabric yourself, or in any aspect of fiber production, you're part of that history, too.

So if you're willing to have me drop by to take a look, do a quick sketch or two and hear what little or lots you know about the stories needles and threads can tell, give me a call at 528-5557. I'll be glad to hear from you.

— MaryKate Jordan

Carol Adele Weitz and her daughter Chelsea, won the quilt that was raffled to benefit the Meetinghouse renovation. Photo courtesy of Carol Adele Weitz.

PIECEMAKERS

The leaves are off the trees, gardens have been put to bed, its cool enough for log fires—so it's the season for the Monterey Piecemakers to be back at work. The Bidwell House will be the beneficiary of next summer's raffle of the queen-size, blue and white quilt now being created. Quilts in The Bidwell House historic collection inspired the design which includes twelve blue stars and embroidered flowers on a sparkling white background.

Over the summer we raised $3,457 for the Meeting House Capital Campaign in raffling the appliqued Berkshire Flowers quilt. Thank you all for your generous support. The winner, seen in this delightful picture, was Chelsea, daughter of Carole Adele Weitz and granddaughter of Ida Weitz, long time Monterey summer residents.

We've added one more quilter this year and would be happy to include more people. If you have any sewing experience we can teach you quilt making and will accept whatever amount of time you are able to contribute. Meetings are fun and informal. Call Barbara Tryon 528-0728 if you are interested.

— Pam Johnson

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HUNTING SEASON

Attention all walkers, hikers, and anyone who lives in or near the forest—which is just about everyone in Monterey. Deer hunting season is upon us and all outdoor folk should be aware of the following dates: shotgun season begins on Monday November 30 and goes through Saturday December 12; primitive firearm season is from Monday, December 14 through Saturday, December 19.

In our area the main concern is shotgun season which attracts a large number of hunters, many of whom live elsewhere and come to Monterey to hunt. Most hunters are responsible sportsmen, but it's easy to see how a person who is not familiar with the town could go into the woods before dawn and not realize that they are near a road or someone's property. Safety orange or bright red clothing is the order of the day for animals and people who spend time outdoors. Another technique popular with hikers is to wear bells on your pack.

Connie Ohman, Management Forester with the Department of Environmental Management, stated that **"During shotgun season I just stay out of the woods."** Ohman added that there are no restrictions on hunting near the Appalachian trail, and hunting is prohibited on Sundays. Although certain State Forests do not allow hunting, many of these properties are not well posted or regulated so it cannot be assumed safe to hike. Of course in Monterey hunting on private property is only allowed with written permission from the landowner.

— Maggie Leonard

© JOHN HUMPHREY

This buck was bagged during last year's hunting season. Shotgun season this year runs from November 30 to December 13.

GOULD FARM

November, the time of the year mammals begin nestling in and snuggling under for winter. Fifteen Gould Farmers, however, were uprooting and moving into new homes instead. The Farm hasn't seen a reshuffling of living quarters of this magnitude for decades! Ten staff bedrooms on the third floor of Main House were closed due to structural uncertainties, so we employed some creativity to fit the homeless folks into the rest of our little village. We've rented a house in Hartsville to help with the overflow. Now as the snow begins to fall we're all nestled in and can work on building up our extra layers of fat and fuzz.

As the seasons turn, so too do our stomachs, heads, and throats. G-Farmers have been knocked out left and right with stomach flu, fevers, coughs, and laryngitis. One of the risks of living in a close-knit community is the quick spread of sickness! So we share cough drops, tea, and sympathies, and extol the virtues of the nap.

Some new happenings include the start of a drumming group (beat out those primal rhythms and stay warm!) and new drum hardware via a grant from the Berkshire Taconic Foundation. Melissa Kirkby, a volunteer, beat out her own rhythm and ran in the New York City Marathon. Melissa wore a t-shirt that she made with an appliqued farm scene, the letters Gould Farm, and signed by all of us in fabric marker.

We are preparing for Thanksgiving: cooking down pumpkin and squash, dreading the mashing of fifty pounds of potatoes, anticipating the arrival of a dozen turkeys, and trying to figure out how many tables and chairs we can squeeze into the dining hall and living room while avoiding any danger of suffocation. By the time this is printed, we will also be preparing for Christmas. If you are unsure of your plans for Christmas Eve, consider coming to the Farm for our six o'clock candlelight dinner. Call Kim or Heidi at 528-1804 for more information or a reservation. Please join us!

— Heidi Haverkamp

LIVING WITH EXPECTANCY

Once again we are embarking on a seasonal journey that holds enormous contrasts. On the one hand, we are told by commercial pundits and soothsayers that the " Christmas season" (which now seems to have expanded from Columbus Day to December 25) is the most important buying time of the year. A lot of money, plastic and otherwise, is expected to be spent. Frenetic might be the word to use to describe the season. On the other hand, nature is calling us to live with expectant and restful dormancy. Signs abound letting us know that mourning the passing of the summer and fall seasons is not entirely appropriate. The budding of new life is all about awaiting the return of the warmer and more direct rays of the sun.

It appears, and I believe it is true, that we are creating a society that goes counter to the prevailing and life sustaining energy of the natural world. There seems to be more and more dissonance. For instance, we are being asked and coerced to live our lives in accordance with financial and economic graphs and statistics. It has almost become our patriotic duty to spend more and more, then borrow and take on more indebtedness. But apart from that, there is the much more significant restlessness of spirit that lies beneath this compulsive behavior. And that should give us a clue about the conflict that results from living these opposing roles. When the rhythm of our natural world and our physical body call for a slowing down, a more restful disposition, society is cajoling us to do and be just the opposite!

When my parents emigrated to this country in 1929, they communicated with family by mail. Most of that mail was surface mail, that is by ship across the Atlantic. It took several weeks for family members to receive news about each other. One learned to wait with expectation. Now one can pull out a cellular phone and call to almost any part of the globe and be "in touch" immediately! No waiting there!

With the onset of Advent we are being reminded that, in the midst of all this instant communication and immediate gratification, it still takes about nine months for a new life to be formed and born. In all the technological wizardry that has been invented, the creation of a new person has not been supplanted. Conception yes, but not creation.

I am reminded of this by the story that surrounds the birth of Jesus. Both Mary and her relative, Elizabeth, are wonderful figures of expectant waiting. They are filled with a grace and awe that overwhelms their lives. They are women who have space in their hearts and bodies for new life.

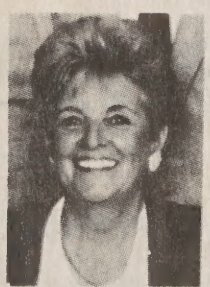
To recall and retell their stories this season, is to remind us about the meaning of this season, and, more significantly, to call us back to the sacred rhythms of patient waiting, of restful expectancy, and of hopeful living.

Keith Snow, Pastor
Monterey United Church of Christ

CHRISTMAS EVE

On December 24 there will be two Christmas Eve candlelight services at the United Church of Christ, in the Monterey Meeting House, 7 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

Also, please join us for a Bible study, the Gospel according to Matthew, each Tuesday evening from 7 to 8:30, at Loul McIntosh's house, Gould Farm. The format is conversation and discussion. For more information call: 528-5850



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THE FAMILY NETWORK/ CHILDREN'S HEALTH, INC.

The Family Network is located at 940 South Main Street, Great Barrington: call 528-0721 for more information. All activities are at the Family Center, unless otherwise noted.

Immunization Policy Update. In the best interests of families, the Children's Health Program, Inc. recommends that children be following an immunization schedule when attending playgroups. However, children with a medical exemption from a physician and/or children whose parents have a sincere religious belief against all immunizations may attend playgroups. We caution parents to be sure their children are in good health when attending playgroup and advise pregnant women of the change in the immunization policy.

Parents Without Partners. Some parents have asked about starting a group for parents without partners. We are seeking names and phone numbers of those interested to see if it could be possible to begin such a group. Please call the Family Center if you are interested in this group.

WIC Program. Women, Infants, and Children's (WIC) Program, of the Children's Health Program provides free nutrition education, area referrals and healthy foods to pregnant, breast-feeding, and postpartum women, children up to the age of five, and infants. A family of four, for example, can have income of up to $586.00 per week and still qualify. We have three convenient sites. One in Lee, Otis, and Great Barrington. Please call us today if you think WIC is for you. 413-528-0457

Regular activities at the Family Center in Great Barrington include: drop-in times, Mondays and Fridays, noon-2 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesday, 3-5 p.m.; Thursdays 10 a.m.-noon.

The Family Center in Otis is open on Thursdays, 10 a.m.-noon. Families can use the playroom, visit the clothing exchange and use the lending library.

Play and Learn Playgroup, every Monday and Friday for three and four year olds. Registration is required, 9-11 a.m.

Mother-Baby Exercise Class, every Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required and childcare will be provided.

English As A Second Language, (ESL), every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and every Friday at noon. Childcare will be provided with advance notice. Please call to register.

Parent-Child Playgroups, every Wednesday and Thursday at 9:30 a.m. in Great Barrington, every Thursday at Town Hall, Otis. Please call for information of other playgroups in area.

December Calendar of Events.

December 1, Licensed Daycare Provider's Group, 7 p.m. "Working with Parents and Children" led by Gretchen Courage.

December 3, Make a centerpiece or Christmas tree from boxwood, 6 p.m. Led by Olympia Casivant, $10 fee for materials. Scholarships are available. Call to register.

December 5, Holiday crafts for children, 10-11:30 a.m. Call to register.

December 8, Stress and the Holidays led by Gretchen Courage, 6:30 p.m. Learn how other parents cope with the holiday time. Call to register.

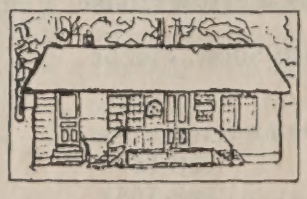
The Roadside Store & Cafe

Owned and Operated by the Gould Farm Community
On Route 23 in Monterey, Massachusetts

"The pancakes should be denoted by hubcap size....
Small is a Honda, medium is a Ford Taurus,
and large is a Mac truck."
-- Matthew Breuer, a Roadside regular

Open every day from 7:30am-3:00pm,
grilled food available until 2:00pm.

Breakfast and lunch served all day,
made with fresh, Farm-grown ingredients.
Other local products & crafts also for sale.
Call 528-2633 about daily specials.



WINTER HEROICS ESSAY CONTEST

The *Monterey News* is sponsoring an essay contest for children, entitled **Winter Heroics**. This is your opportunity to regale everyone with real-life heroics, or indulge your fantasies of wintery derring-do. Humor is an option as well. Age groups will be judged separately and the categories are: children twelve years and under, thirteen to sixteen years old, and an open class for "kids of all ages." In addition to having their piece published in the March issue of the Monterey News, first prize in each category will receive a twenty dollar gift certificate from the Bookloft.

Essays may be fiction or nonfiction, should not exceed 300 words, and must be submitted to the *Monterey News* no later than February fifteenth. We look forward to hearing about your **Winter Heroics**. Please send all entries to Attn: Essay Contest, Monterey News, P.O. Box 9, Monterey, MA 01245.

— Maggie Leonard

Family Center calendar cont.

December 9, Big Brother, Big Sister Sibling Class led by Mary Jane Sackett, R.N., 3:30 p.m. Call to register.

December 10, Family Center holiday party for staff and volunteers, 6 p.m. Call To R.S.V.P.

December 12, Twins holiday party, 10:30 a.m. Call to register.

December 14, Father/Child activity, 5:30 p.m. Make stockings and enjoy some soup. Call to register.

December 17, Parent-infant drop-in. Meet Mrs. Claus, songs and games, 1 p.m. Call to register.

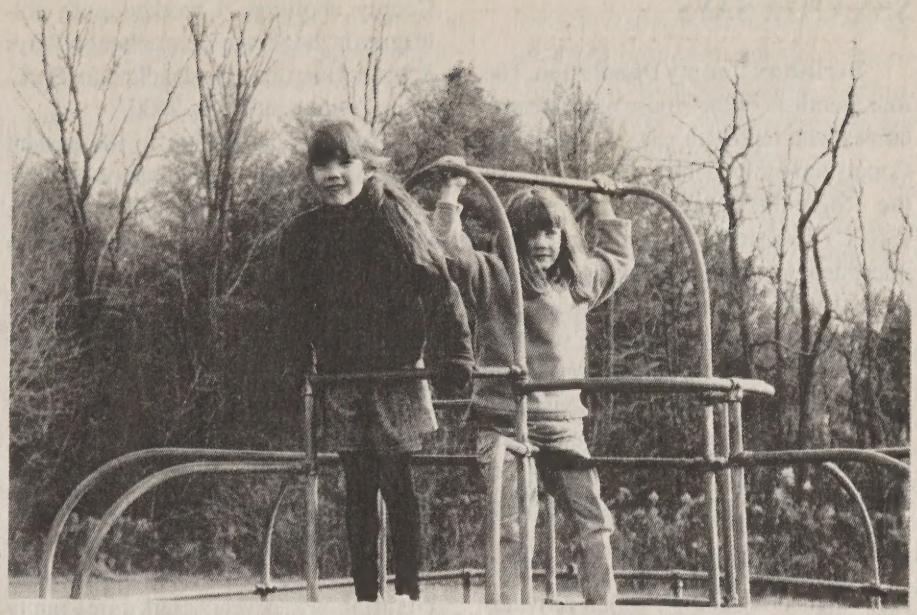
December 21, 22, 23, Family Center will be open for drop-in and regular activities.

December 24, Family Center is open until noon.

December 25, Merry Christmas. Family Center is closed for the holiday.

December 28, 29, 30, 31, Family Center will be open for drop-in only.

December 31, Family Center will be open until 12 noon.



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Laura Andrus and Macy Thomas keep busy on the jungle gym while their dads put up the boards for the skating rink in the pavillion behind the Firehouse.

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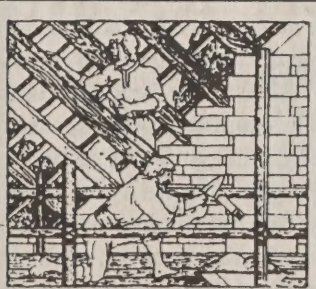

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SENATOR SAYS

Berkshire County Dissolution. The four members of the House of Representatives who represent parts of Berkshire County have joined me in requesting that the Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) lead local officials and other interested Berkshire residents in responding to the impending dissolution of Berkshire County government. BRPC will take the lead in the effort to gather input, study examples of regional service provision in other areas, analyze specific needs in the Berkshires for regional services, and recommend ways to implement the findings of that analysis.

The legislature adopted and the Governor signed legislation which provides for the abolition of Berkshire County in July 2000. An initial draft of the legislation specified that Berkshire County would cease in July 1999. Recognizing that substantial ground work had yet to be done to plan alternatives for regional service provision and to smooth implementation of changes which will accompany County abolition, I worked with colleagues in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means to extend the deadline for Berkshire County until July 2000.

Contributing factors to the current wave of County reorganization include reform of the state's court system in 1978; the binding public referendum which adopted Proposition 2 1/2 in 1980, limiting the growth of County revenues; substantial increases in state support for Houses of Correction throughout Massachusetts; and the creation of County Advisory Boards to oversee County finances in the early 1980's. A number of Counties had accumulated large debts in recent years, and the state had been called on to finance twenty-two County budget deficits in the past six years. Berkshire County received state bailouts in 1991 and 1992.

It has always been my intention to improve the level of services available to communities in this region. I believe that grassroots input from local officials and others will be essential in creating an effective system for providing these services. I am confident that the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission is uniquely qualified to conduct the process required for this transition. The BRPC has managed in recent years to refocus its mission, attract new leadership to its board, expand its professional staff, increase offerings by aggressively pursuing grants and other revenue, and to make itself more directly responsive to the needs of Berkshire municipalities. BRPC's ongoing work with the Berkshire Connect telecommunications effort is an example of its creativity and diligence in responding to issues facing the Berkshires today.

Exotic Aquatics. I am co-sponsor of Senate Bill 2227, An Act Creating and Exotic Aquatic Species Plant Control Program. This bill would provide assistance in eradicating invasive, non-native weeds from Massachusetts lakes and ponds. This is a subject of great importance to western Massachusetts, where many recreational bodies of water both in and out of state parks are overrun with plants which are out of balance with native aquatic species.

In a supplemental budget adopted by the legislature in July, the Senate Committee on Ways & Means included an appropriation of $1 million to fund this program. As has been widely reported in the media, the Acting Governor vetoed many items in that budget, including this funding for control of aquatic weeds. I will continue to work with my Ways & Means colleagues to identify a new source of funding for this proposal so that we can provide meaningful assistance to municipalities and lake management districts in combating weed problems.

Telecommunications Towers. The Massachusetts Municipal Association has negotiated for months with a coalition of cellular phone companies to formulate guidelines that would resolve issues relative to the siting of telecommunications towers in towns throughout Massachusetts. Four companies—AT&T Wireless, Bell Atlantic, Cell One, and Nextel—are taking part in the negotiations, which also include the Conservation Law Foundation. Two companies—Sprint and Omnipoint—have dropped out because they were unwilling to pay $5,000 each to defray the cost of a consultant. Their withdrawal is unfortunate but need not preclude an agreement that all companies will accept.

In October, MMA representatives met with officials from the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (DTE) in a forum on the future role of the DTE on regulating the telecommunications industry. At the conference, Jeff Beckwith, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, called on the DTE to act as a catalyst in solving the natural conflicts between industry and local government needs.

Beckwith called on the DTE to urge the two wireless communications providers, Sprint PCS and Omnipoint, to come to the table in the MMA-industry negotiations over the siting of telecommunication towers. This would be a much more desirable method of dealing with the problem of siting telecommunication towers than being in the role of having to second guess local zoning officials. He also asked that the DTE become more of an information provider to industry and municipalities involved in these issue conflicts.

— Senator Andrea F. Nuciforo Jr.

Edited by Peter Murkett, Ian Jenkins, & Kim Hines

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REP RAP

The Massachusetts Gun Control Act took effect on October 21, 1998 and in doing so significantly changed the requirements of purchasing, possessing, carrying, storing and licensing of firearms. The new law also increases the penalties for unlawful possession and use of firearms. Since its passage, many people have contacted my office with questions regarding this measure as they do with any new law. It is important that the public knows how this law works and to dispel the misconceptions that have been bandied about in the past few months.

How does the licensing system work? Your current Firearms Identification (FID) Card will expire on your birthday in 1999 if you were born between July 1 and December 31. It will expire on your birthday in the year 2000 if your birthday falls between January 1 and June 30. The new FID card will be valid for four years and permits the possession and carrying of non-large capacity rifles and shotguns. You must be eighteen years of age or older, or fifteen to eighteen years old with parental consent, to apply for an FID card. The law sets the fee for an FID card at twenty-five dollars and prohibits police departments from charging more. The fees will expedite the use of a computerized firearm record keeping system that will assist law enforcement. The fees will also facilitate more accurate and efficient sales from gun dealers, who must comply with the Brady II law.

The new law also creates two types of licenses to carry (LTC). The Class A LTC permits the purchase, possession and carrying of large-capacity handguns, rifles, shotguns and feeding devices. Large capacity guns are any rifle or semiautomatic and takes a magazine or clip that holds more than ten rounds, or any shotgun (long or short barreled) that is semiautomatic and takes a magazine (or clip) that holds more than five shells.

Also, all assault weapons are qualified as large capacity. An LTC will be required for the purchase and possession of rifles or shotguns that are qualified as large capacity. Class A licenses are the only licenses that permit carrying a concealed weapon. The Class B LTC permits the purchase, possession and carrying of non-large capacity handguns and large capacity rifles and shotguns. The Executive Office of Public Safety is required to publish a roster three times a year of guns classified as large capacity weapons so you will know what type of license, FID or LTC or a Class A LTC as opposed to a Class B LTC, you will need to obtain. All LTCs will be valid until its stated expiration date. New LTC applicants must be twenty one years of age or older and the new Class A and Class B licenses are valid for four years. The fee for the Class A or Class B LTC is $25.00. You can apply for either an FID or LTC card at the police department in the city or town in which you live or operate a business. Your police department will also be able to inform you of the new eligibility requirements that are presently in place. The rules that apply to hunting are that anyone with an FID card or a Class A or B LTC may use non-large capacity rifles or shotgun for hunting. High capacity rifles require wither a Class A or Class B LTC. While engaged in hunting and in possession of a hunting license, a person with an FID or LTC may carry a loaded or unloaded rifle or shotgun on a public way.

In addition the new law also imposes penalties for keeping a weapon without a safety device attached and engaged, unless the weapon is in a locked container or under the control of someone authorized to use it. All new firearms applicants must complete a certified firearms safety or hunter education course.

Are guns being banned? Only sawed off shot guns, "junk" guns, and assault weapons already prohibited by Federal law and manufactured after 1994 are banned. The sale of "junk" guns is now prohibited in the Commonwealth but any gun currently owned will be grandfathered for the purposes of both possession and sale. No gun has been added to the list of weapons presently banned and the transfer of grandfathered guns are not prohibited. The law is written to comply with existing Federal law.

I know that some of these new regulations may seem confusing or complex. I welcome your thoughts and I will be happy to assist you in resolving any questions you may have. In fact I have a brief synopsis of what gun owners need to know in order to comply with the law. Please contact my full-time district office at 243-0289 if you would like a copy. The new gun law does not infringe on the rights of lawful gun owners and sportsmen while it goes a long way towards keeping weapons out of the hands of criminals, curious children and adolescents.

— Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins

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THE MAGIC MAN

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pulls fazzoletti
from his sleeve—
these kerchiefs are brightly colored,
striped or flowered with the sounds
of little bells
and each one is lovelier than
Mariassunta can believe.

She goes to his magic show
every day and night
sitting with shining eyes
to watch those fazzoletti
pour from out his sleeve—
a silken stream of waters painted
with the trilling sounds
of singing birds
and each is truly lovelier than
Mariassunta can believe.

One night he notices and takes her home
and pulls the fazzoletti
from out of his magic sleeve—
all dazzling, spangled, filled
with tumbling coins
of joyful love
and his happy kisses and caresses
are almost lovelier than
Mariassunta can believe.

Only a magician
like LEO IL MAGNIFICO!
can pull such fazzoletti
from a simple sleeve
and turn time itself to days
all colored by surprise:
dimity Mondays, buttercup Wednesdays
polka-dot Thursdays, calico Fridays;
Saturdays are red chiffon
and he takes Tuesdays and silver satin Sundays off
Now Mariassunta washes and she irons them
and folds them into dreams
and to Leo she is much more magic than
he *could ever believe!*

— A.O. Howell

THE MIRACLE OF THREE THOUSAND STARLINGS

reciting the plowed land love verses
of tree top and daring oracle:
startling flock or birth fleeing now
leaderless starbound blessing of mirth
and tao of we hysterical darlings

free thou of darkening barnacles:
unbearable our fountains of cheap spark
mad barking of clerical cows in heat
the irresistible count and sterling
scarred and bleeding house shackled in scorn

monocled dowsing for the real and spartan
doubt not the ethical feeding of art
the worth of particles of fleeing clouds
deepen this veritable marvelling:
this vegetal garland rounding the sea

— R. Zukowski

ANTIC BEARS AT DAWN

As the dim light grows in the east,
The silhouetted pines across the meadow
Are lumpish bears on their hind legs
Waving multiple arms in the air.
Some are big and more are shorter,
Dimly discernible in deciduous thickets.
Increasing light defines the meadow;
Resident boulders come into view.
The lights of an early car on Main Road
Flicker past, now the leaves are gone,
A will-o-the-wisp sweeping through the trees.
Against the brighter sky the bears
Are pierced with light, turn into pines.

— David P. McAllester

THE MILLENNIUM

In the span of one thousand years
the sun, rain and unharnessed wind
shaped our destinies as ever.
Wrathful skies caused havoc
and terrors in the earth.

The period of holiness described in
"Revelations" has not occurred,
nor has the hoped for justice
and serenity been attained.
Prosperity has recently filtered down
but not the long expected joy.

Again and again we come to blows
to settle disputes that end in wars
with their horrors and waves of refugees.
Throngs of people are displaced and homeless,
on the move, wandering, cast out.

Our complex tools, like computers, are
full of difficulties and beyond the
understanding of many.
They have helped us find freedom and wealth,
but even the shrouds of the wealthy
have no pockets.
Our relationships have broken down.
Babies in carriages with nannies
have been replaced on the sidewalks
by oldsters in wheelchairs with aides.
Grandparents live together in groups.
The unmarried live together and
singles adopt and raise children.
Farmers, no longer self-sufficient and
independent, have moved to the cities.
We flower but have lost our roots.

We who live in this prosperous land
have become a nation of exotic butterflies,
dressed in colorful fine raiment,
sipping the abundant nectar,
carried around this small world
seeking comfort and pleasurable pursuits.

This millenary produced great strides
in astronomy, health and medicine but
hunger, squalor, disease and poverty plague
us as in days gone by.

In turn, we are generous, caring
and unpardonably careless, greedy.
Our husbandry of this precious world
is poorly handled, but we are learning.
Our understanding has begun.
Tomorrow is to be the Information Age.
Perhaps knowledge will bring action.

Striking with sniping tongues,
an all-time low of bickering,
tattling, gossiping and finger-pointing
appears in the politics of the day,
but we want to believe it will pass
for we are a hopeful nation.

Our vagabond shoes have caused the death of distance.
With the movement of people everywhere
there should evolve an acceptance of our fellow man,
a dream of brotherhood that we have seldom known.
We hope the stranger in the future may not be feared.
With half the world wandering at large,
trust and hospitality may arrive of necessity.
If there is not love, we may still hope for
tolerance.

We are cleaner, healthier, wealthier
than in the previous millennium.
Our minds have been stretched into new realms.
We have learned that freedom must be tended,
winnowed and watered, nurtured and weeded,
that victory in confrontation means
responsibilities for the victor, that new
answers mean new questions.

— Nancy D. Adams

WILDLIFE SURVEY

The change in foliation is the big news of this "moon of the falling leaves." The giddy time is over and the trees stand soberly in deciduous grey and conifer green. The bright yellow leaves of the soaring bittersweet vines are gone but the orange-and-red fruits are open and mark the same flight up into the trees. The white plumes on the wild clematis fruits have turned grey but will catch the sunlight for most of the winter. The fawn-colored larches still have the last say, glowing softly in the green-gray woods.

Beryl and I were in Arizona and Colorado in the last week of October in time for the gold of aspens in the mountains and of cottonwoods in the bottoms. The surprise of the trip was the sight of stately, mature, healthy American elms lining many of the streets of residential Denver. Much of the city is an aboretum of trees from everywhere and those elms, in full color like everything else, were a vision of New England sixty years ago. Denver's aggressive treatment of the Dutch elm disease gives hope to tree lovers everywhere.

A persistent deer mouse. When I took him into the woods, to get him out of the house; and opened the box-trap, he climbed onto the outside of the trap in the dark, without my knowing it, and rode back into the house.

A persistent tick. By the time I noticed the itchy swelling on my arm only the hind end of the tick was visible. I tried to pull it out with tweezers and only pulled that part to pieces. The doctor who excised it next day with a scalpel said a coating of Vaseline might eventually cause a peaceable departure, but my efforts, or applying heat, might cause the tick to spit out any infectious juices it was harboring. I was to report a circular swelling with a pale center or undue aches, fever or fatigue that might signal Lyme disease. I was lucky, but report all this to remind people we are not a tick-free region.

Dale Duryea's report: The bears are fattening up on acorns back on the ridges, but they may still visit your bird feeder before hibernation time; a doe was shot October 14 by a youngster in a hunter-training course in Vermont; it was 190 pounds, dressed, quite some record; Dale saw very large bobcat tracks along a beaver dam in Beartown Forest the last week of October and others along Rawson Brook, October 13. His youngest son got a big surprise, and a lesson in keeping your eyes open, when a big beaver he hadn't seen lunged off his dam, "kawhoosh!" breaking the thin ice and heading for his lodge; Lena Pedersen saw a big hawk after her chickens, recently; there have been seagulls on Lake Garfield in early November, along with lots of geese and ducks.

A rambunctious buck tried out his antlers on a star magnolia on Hunger Mountain Road, November 14. The young tree had buds all set for next spring before it was thrashed and trashed. It could have been the same animal that knocked five snow stakes every whichway at the end of the McAllester driveway on Hupi Road the next day.

Other wildlife activity at the east end of Lake Garfield: Eleanor Kimberley saw a very young red fox go up the bank into the woods on Main Road, November 12; David and Beryl McAllester saw a fine, large coyote with very dark fur on his back cross Hupi Road into their woods in broad daylight, November 15; Beryl saw a pileated woodpecker out the kitchen window, November 10; a great horned owl was doing some daytime hooting, November 12.

Late bloomers: witch hazel is still blooming, though all the leaves are gone, November 15, and watercress is bright green and showing tiny white flowers in the brook below that McAllester house.

— David P. McAllester

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LADYBUGS AND THE WEATHER

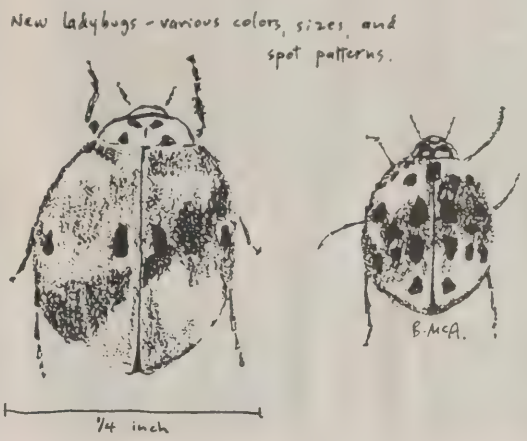
I have heard some dire predictions about the coming winter, and I do not discredit them; predictions are considerably more predictable than the weather, in my experience. About the only thing I ever feel safe in saying about the weather has to do with what has just taken place, about yesterday. Sometimes I will go so far as to say that this has been a pleasant week, or possibly a dry summer. I know I could be on shaky ground, though. Some places have had an even drier summer than we had, or a more pleasant week. "Call that a pleasant week? Huh! I've seen weeks that would make that one pale by comparison."

All this uncertainty about what the weather is, will be, or even has been, is enough to make one long to be, say, a beetle. To a beetle the weather is now, that's all. You wake up in the morning, feel a nip in the air, note the shorter days, and start looking for someplace small and dark to spend the winter. Actually, you don't think in terms of "spend the winter," you just look for someplace small and dark that can be crawled into. You might spend the winter there, you might spend the afternoon there: you don't know the difference.

If you are a ladybug you might be male or you might be female but you are not a "bug" in the true sense of the word. You are a beetle, with the typical beetle variation on the basic insect plan. You have the six legs and you have the two pairs of wings, only in your case the upper or forward pair do not fly. They operate as two halves of a storm door or rounded hatch that opens to let the other pair of wings open up and fly. The storm door wings are called elytra and they are usually tough like armor, usually a bit rounded, and often highly decorated. In the ladybug they are some sort of orange and most of the time they are more or less spotted.

This having been the kind of fall it has been (I am tempted to say "mild"), the ladybugs have not yet disappeared into their dark little hibernacula. The short day lengths have made them poke around some looking for cracks in the wall, but then the warm temperatures have not allowed them to cool down and slow down. So we have restless ladybugs, or at least they seem restless to us.

Ladybugs have been making the news for several years because for the first time in our experience they are coming into



our houses by the thousands. From their point of view, they are not coming into houses—they don't know from houses. You are a ladybug looking for a hibernaculum, a small dark place. You are attracted to a large surface. You crawl about, tapping with your six little feet and your stubby antennae. You find a little crack and jam into it. You jam farther and farther— this crack goes deep! It goes around bends, opens up a bit, gets small again, and suddenly, WO! You have dropped out into a big open place with chairs and tables. This is not what you had in mind. You tune your homing device to the light. You want to go up, to the sky, get out of this, so you open your elytra, spread your delicate brown flying wings and take off for the open sky. WHACK! There is a vertical solid place in the air and you bang into it. You fall to a shelf. You stow your wings and climb up the solid air. What else can you do? You spend all day climbing around this thing, all your instincts telling you to fly to the light, but flying is not in it, for you.

This is likely to be the end of your story. You are not evolved to deal with windows or with the insides of houses. If you are lucky, someone will gently remove you from the glass and release you outside. The next crack you jam into might be on a rough rock face or a big dead tree. You might come to the end of the crack and feel its comforting smallness around you as the predicted dire winter sets in. Ah, you sigh. Your systems slow to imperceptible and you enter a state of nearly suspended animation during which you do not age. You are on "pause" until spring, when you will be roused by warmth, by long days. Your little hormones surging, you will mate, and if you are a lady, you will lay eggs on the underside of a leaf. Your babies will emerge hungry and equipped with monstrous jaws. They will tear into aphids and other smaller creatures and they will grow into larger and larger larvae until it is time for their metamorphosis to typical adult ladybugs (or beetles).

Fall comes and you start all over again, only you are not the same old you. You were a 1998 adult ladybug, but you only lived through the winter and into the summer. Now your grown babies carry on your beetle purpose in life. Your splendidly spotted adult ladybug body has fallen in the orchard and turned to topsoil, raising up the trees and leaves to feed the aphids which feed your babies. With this kind of cyclical certainty, it's no wonder you have no need of weather predictions.

— Bonner McAllester

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You gotta love these guys. Every year they come out on a Saturday and put up the boards for the skating rink. If only the weather was as reliable as the crew. They are, from left to right, Tom Morrison, Jim Thomas, Pat Fenell, Daryl Jassen, Dave Stanisz, Morgan Jassen, Rick Andrus, Cory Jassen, Mick Burns, Paul Nugent. Not shown, John Humphrey.

BOB & EILEEN SCHLICHTER

Bob and Eileen Schlichter, summer residents of Lake Garfield for forty three years, both recently passed away. They had a home on Bidwell Road and after retirement they rented from Fred Rosebrock on Hupi Road.

Eileen died on September 21 in Boynton Beach, Florida. She had been hospitalized prior to her death. Bob died on October 16, just twenty five days later. Just as in life, they were inseparable and Bob found it unbearable after Eileen's death. He too was in the hospital at the time of his death.

The Schlicter's loved Monterey and felt their happiest years were those on Lake Garfield. May their memories live on with all of us who had the pleasure of knowing them.

— Bobbi Halterbeck
Formerly of Elephant Rock Road,
Lake Garfield.

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THE LAST WOODCOCK

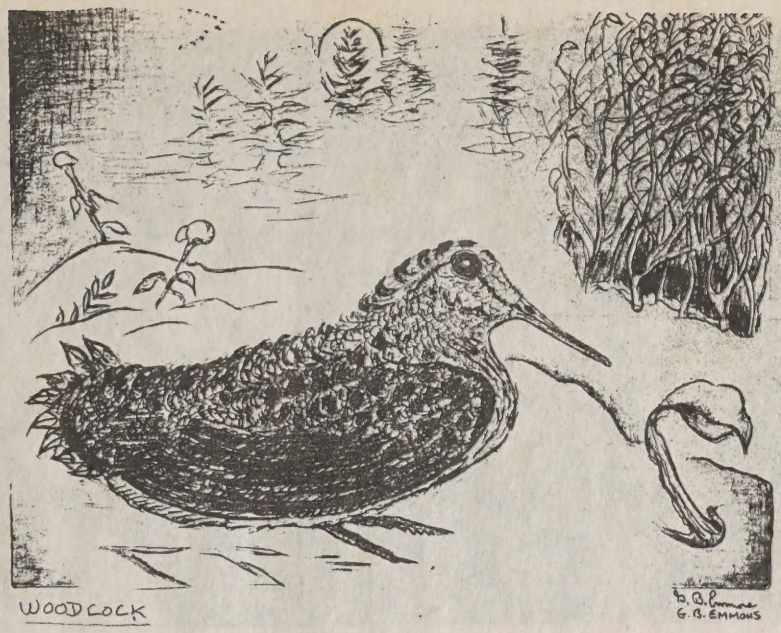
Our native woodcock is a migratory game bird whose very subsistence is tied to the earth through it's long slender bill, that permits it to probe several inches below the surface of the ground for it's staple diet of worms.

Subsequently the woodcock must migrate south to stay one jump ahead of the frost line. Their departure usually begins after sunset following freezing temperatures and the approach of snow. Local flights begin with a few birds, just over the tree tops, sometimes barely missing utility lines. They like a full moon and a prevailing breeze that will take them a hundred miles of more during the night. At dawn they will drop into a likely location where they can feed and rest before the next leg of their long journey.

Flights from as far north as Nova Scotia along traditional flyways can be decoyed in by these birds, and the migrations tend to gather numbers. By the time that those following the Atlantic flyway reach Cape May, New Jersey, thousands will wait together for a favorable wind to take them across Chesapeake Bay. The National Audubon Society has purchased land here and created a sanctuary to protect the woodcock (and other birds) during migration.

Many woodcock flights winter over in Louisiana, but they have a homing instinct and will arrive back in the Berkshires within a few weeks of spring in anticipation of their nesting season. They are rarely visible as their russet color blends perfectly with their habitat. However in May the male woodcock gets everyone's attention with a spectacular display of aerial acrobatics. Then the upland fields of along Rawson Brook and the Konkapot River come alive with the upward singing flight gyrations of the male courtship dance.

On the ground, the nesting woodcock hen is a devoted mother and an example of nature's best maternal instincts. If she finds that her clutch of eggs (or small chicks) has been discovered, she will pick them up, one by one, firmly between her legs, and lift or drag them with furtive wing beats to a more secretive location.



Such woodcock observations have a very controversial history going back to the turn of the century. It seems that a Reverend William J. Long reported seeing a woodcock with an injured leg taking clay from a stream bed, with it's bill, and covering the wound with a mixture of grass like a cast, and then remaining motionless until it dried. Several naturalists of that time, including E.T. Seton, captured a popular public willingness to anthropomorphize wildlife behavior.

Now as we approach the last season of 1998 and the solar pendulum of the grandfather clock in the heavens passes overhead, with a measured motion in space, it will tick away the fleeting increments of days before winter. On December 21 the winter solstice arrives, and the shadowy hands of it's sundial point to the Roman numerals of midnight and the longest night; thus triggering the mechanism that activates the chimes to ring in the wee hours of the dawn of another life cycle on earth. Meanwhile, we humans observe nature's time piece in our frozen landscape, and hear it toll for the last woodcock, who, like the summer residents of Lake Garfield, has already gone south for the winter.

— George Emmons

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There was magic at the Meetinghouse on Saturday, November 28, as local musicians performed in a concert to benefit the Meetinghouse renovation project. They are, from left to right, Tom Ingersoll, Adam Rothberg, Anson Olds, John Humphrey, and John Sellew. Not shown is mandolin player Tom Buck.

PERSONAL NOTES

Birthday greetings go out to **Stefan Grotz** on December 1, to **Matthew Christopher** on December 2, to **Graham** and **Madigan Hines** on December 3, **Karen Schulze** on December 5, to **Jacob Edelman** and **Simon Spagnoletti** on December 7, to **Mike Mielke III** on December 8, to **David Brady** on December 11, to **Natasha Grotz** on December 12, to **Stacy Ingher** and **Morgan Clawson** on December 20, to **Donald Amstead** on December 25, to **Eliana Schulze** and **Eloisa Schulze** on December 27, to **Jon Pratt** on December 28, and to **Nancy Brady** on December 31.

It's hard to believe that it's December already and a new year is just around the corner. Best wishes to all of you for the holidays, and especially for the New Year. Several Monterey residents are members of the **Berkshire Children's Chorus** this year, and the chorus has just fixed its Holiday Concert schedule. Concerts include the Festival of Trees Concert at the Berkshire Museum on Sunday, December 6, at 2 p.m., and the Holiday Concert at St. Mary's Church in Lakeville, CT, also at 2 p.m. on Sunday, December 20. Two dates well worth marking on your calendars!

We enjoy hearing your news, and passing on birthday and anniversary greetings. If you have any you would like to share, please drop me a line at P.O. Box 351, Monterey, MA 01245, or give me a call at 528-6691, if possible, before the twelfth of each month. If you prefer e-mail, my address is higgins@vgernet.net Thank you so much.

— Ann Higgins

Peter S. Vallianos
Attorney at Law
528-0055

General practice includes real estate purchases, sales, family transfers and transfers in trust, zoning, land use matters, conservation restrictions, landlord-tenant; wills, probate; commercial law.

***

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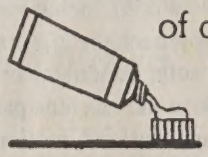

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CALENDAR

Saturday, December 5, Holiday Sale at New Marlborough Central School, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., School Street, Mill River, Mass. Christmas trees, baked goods, books, and more.

Monday, December 7, Special Town Meeting 7 p.m., Firehouse, Main Road. Under consideration: school tax assessment, bylaw amendment for docks, and general money shuffling (see *Town News* for details).

Friday, December 11, Senior Christmas luncheon, noon, Town Hall basement. Everyone is welcome.

Tuesday, December 15, Blood pressure clinic, 9-10:30 a.m., administered by the Visiting Nurses Association, Town Hall basement.

Calendar cont.

Monday, December 21, 10 a.m.-noon, South County La Leche League meets at the Guthrie Center, Great Barrington. Free advice and support for breastfeeding. For questions and directions call Maureen at 528-6619

Thursday, December 24, 6 p.m., Christmas Eve candlelight dinner at Gould Farm, for more information and reservations call Kim or Heidi at the Farm, 528-1804.

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve candlelight services at 7 p.m. and 11:30 p.m., United Church of Christ, Main Road.

Friday, December 25, Town Offices closed for Christmas holiday.

Saturday, December 26, there will not be any contradance this month.

THE OBSERVER

October 25-November 25

High temp. (11/11)	59.9°
Low temp. (11/6)	21.4°
Wind chilled low temp.(11/22)	1.4°
Avg. high temp.	45.5°
Avg. low temp.	31.4°
Avg. temp.	38.5°
High bar. press.(11/10)	30.33"
Low bar. press. (11/15)	29.48"

High wind gust (11/24) of ... 34 m.p.h.
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Contributions from local artists this month: Christopher Carnese, cover; Bonner McAllester, p. 15; George Emmons p. 17.

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